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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/790,488	03/01/2004	Matthew L. Sherman	AM-101314USA	9527
38199	7590	08/04/2009		
HOWSON & HOWSON LLP / WYETH 501 OFFICE CENTER DRIVE SUITE 210 FORT WASHINGTON, PA 19034				
EXAMINER				
BETTON, TIMOTHY E				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
1617				
NOTIFICATION DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
08/04/2009		ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

docketing@howsonandhowson.com

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/790,488

Applicant(s)

SHERMAN ET AL.

Examiner

TIMOTHY E. BETTON

Art Unit

1617

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 August 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2,3,6,25-31,33,34,37 and 45-48 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2,3,6,25-31,33,34,37 and 45-48 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Applicants' Remarks filed on 9 June 2009 has been acknowledged and duly made of record.

Request for Continued Examination

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 30 June 2009 has been entered.

The Improper Finality of Office Action

The Office Action dated 30 December 2008 has been reconsidered in view of the inadvertent misprint drawn to the action being indicated as FINAL but having introduced the new reference, Lane et al USGPUB 2004/0147541 A1.

Applicants traverse the rejection under U.S.C. 35 §102 (b) over the Lane et al. reference. Upon consideration of applicants' point at issue, the Examiner concedes that Lane et al. was improperly applied. Indeed, under the statute 35 U.S.C. §102(b), Lane et al. is not properly applied. However, Lane et al. is applicable under §102(a). Further, applicants have amended the claims to *breast cancer*.

Rejections not reiterated from previous Office Actions are hereby withdrawn.

Status of the Claims

Claims 2, 3, 6, 25-31, 33-34, 37, and 45-48 are pending for further prosecution on the merits.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

Claims 2, 3, 6, 25-31, 33-34, 37, and 45-48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Lane et al. (USPGPUB 2004/0147541 A1, PCT Filed: 18 February 2002).

Lane et al. teach a method for the treatment of solid tumors. See paragraphs [0011] - [0017]. The method comprises administering to said subject a therapeutically effective amount of **rapamycin** or a derivative thereof, e.g. **CCI779**, ABT578 or a compound of formula I, along with a chemotherapeutic agent to inhibit processes associated with tumor formation. See paragraphs [0018]-[0025], especially [0023]. CCI779 is 42-O-(2-hydroxy) ethyl rapamycin. See paragraph [0025].

When the additional chemotherapeutic agent is an aromatase inhibitor, this composition is useful in treating breast tumors. See the explicit teaching in paragraph [0049]. The term "**aromatase inhibitor**" as used herein relates to a compound which inhibits the estrogen production, i.e. the conversion of the substrates androstenedione and testosterone to estrone and estradiol, respectively. The term includes, but is not limited to steroids, [...], and **letrozole**. [...] Letrozole can be administered, e.g., in the form as it is marketed, e.g. under the trademark FEMARA.TM. or FEMAR.TM. [...]

Further Lane et al teach the administration of a pharmaceutical combination of the invention results not only in a beneficial effect, e.g. a synergistic therapeutic effect, e.g. with regard to slowing down, arresting or reversing the neoplasm formation or a longer duration of tumor response, but also in further surprising beneficial effects, e.g. less side-effects, an improved quality of life or a decreased mortality and morbidity, compared to a monotherapy applying only one of the pharmaceutically active ingredients used in the combination of the invention, in particular in the treatment of a tumor that is refractory to other chemotherapeutics known as anti-cancer agents. In particular, an increased up-take of the co-agent (b) in tumor tissue and tumor cells is observed, when applied in combination with the first agent (a). See paragraph [0118]. Particularly, neoplasms may be treated or their metastasis prevented. See paragraph [0017].

Lane et al. further teach that due to the synergistic effect of the combination, lower doses of the active ingredients in the combination can be used in order to control side effects and still see inhibition of growth of neoplasm formation. See the explicit teachings at paragraph [0119].

Thus, Lane et al. teaches each limitation of the current claims. Lane et al anticipates the chemotherapeutic combination of CCI-779 and letrozole.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to TIMOTHY E. BETTON whose telephone number is (571)272-9922. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:30a - 5:00p.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sreeni Padmanabhan can be reached on (571) 272-0629. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

TEB

/JOHNNY F. RAILEY II/
Primary Examiner, TC 1600